

WELCOMING REVEREND WILLIAM RICE

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. JOLLY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce to my colleagues our guest chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives today, Pastor Willy Rice of Clearwater, Florida's Calvary Baptist Church.

Pastor Willy is a Florida native, attending Calvary as a young man and returning to the church years later in 2004 to become the church pastor. Pastor Willy is joined in ministry by his wife, Cheryl, and together they have three children.

Mr. Speaker, Calvary Baptist Church is a church that is indeed alive. Pastor Willy and the entire church family minister each day through worship services, through Calvary Christian School, by serving those in need through Calvary Cares, and through ministries that support families, the elderly, supporting foster care and adoption services, providing grief counseling and ministry, and ministries to the deaf community.

In each of these ministries, Pastor Willy and the Calvary family remain focused on sharing the saving grace and the love of the Christ in Whom we put our faith, living out this faith each day with a spirit of evangelism, a humble compassion, and a heart of Christian ministry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues today to welcome Pastor Willy and his wife Cheryl. May God bless the Rice family, and may God bless the church family at Clearwater's Calvary Baptist Church.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ALLEN AMERICANS HOCKEY TEAM IN THE PLAYOFFS

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise because I would like to congratulate some very talented individuals in my district—the Allen Americans hockey team.

I am proud to represent the city of Allen in Washington, D.C., and everyone in Collin County is lucky because we are able to call the Allen Americans our home team. They have had a stellar season, and they are now on their way to winning their third straight championship. Today the Allen Americans will play the South Carolina Stingrays in game 3 of the Kelly Cup Playoffs.

I would like to say to the Allen Americans: Congratulations for making it this far. Good luck tonight. Your hometown believes in you, and we can't wait to see you bring home your third championship. You have worked hard, so go show them why you don't mess with Texas. Go get the Stingrays.

HONORING THE ALLIED TROOPS WHO LANDED ON THE BEACHES OF NORTHERN FRANCE

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, 71 years ago this week, 160,000 Allied troops landed on the beaches of northern France. Nine thousand were killed or wounded on D-day. Their bravery and sacrifice made possible the liberation of a continent and the defeat of an evil ideology.

The American heroes who fought at Normandy are examples of what we want our country to be: courageous, generous, and undeterred by a commitment to freedom. But we owe every veteran from D-day to today more.

We should remove the expiration dates in the GI bill so that veterans have access to education and training at any point in their career. We should pass an infrastructure plan with a preference for hiring veterans in the building and construction trades. We should help veterans keep medical appointments by providing child care at the VA clinics. And we should make sure that our veterans hospitals are state-of-the-art facilities.

Mr. Speaker, this weekend I will join all Americans and remember our soldiers who fought on D-day. May our country always be worthy of their sacrifice.

CONGRATULATING BAKER ELMORE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere gratitude I have the opportunity to recognize Baker Elmore, legislative director of South Carolina's Second Congressional District. I will always appreciate Baker for his service on behalf of the people of South Carolina.

A native of Cheraw, South Carolina, and formerly of the award-winning USC golf team, Baker has faithfully served on the staff for 6 years in various roles, including legislative director, legislative assistant, and special assistant. His expertise on nuclear energy, trade, and foreign affairs, combined with his ability to connect with constituents and eagerness to assist them, has made a difference, especially promoting the missions of the Savannah River site.

It is with mixed feelings, but great happiness, that I bid Baker farewell. Baker is moving on next week to serve

as director of Federal programs at the Nuclear Energy Institute, NEI. This is a tremendous vote of confidence in his capability, his competence, dedication, and integrity.

Congratulations to his parents, Mike and Debbie Elmore, along with his grandparents, Sam and Gina McCuen and Harriet Elmore, for raising such a talented staff member.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Godspeed, Baker Elmore.

RECOGNIZING THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

(Mr. ASHFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ASHFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support and admiration for the AbilityOne Program, this country's single largest provider of employment for people who are blind or have significant disabilities.

AbilityOne currently works with approximately 4,600 blind individuals and over 44,000 disabled people, 3,000 of whom are military veterans or wounded warriors, helping them gain greater independence and a higher quality of life. This is accomplished by providing them with both the skills and training necessary to find valued jobs with good wages and benefits.

Mr. Speaker, Congress first recognized the need for this type of program in 1938 and expanded upon it in 1971. Today AbilityOne delivers more than \$2 billion in quality products and services to the Federal Government at fair market prices. It also provides critical support to the U.S. armed services for both military and humanitarian operations. With a national network of nearly 600 community-based nonprofit agencies, AbilityOne contracts projects in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

With the participation of more of its citizens in the workplace, every community benefits from greater cultural diversity and awareness.

SECURING THE RULE OF LAW

(Mr. CARTER of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 26 States, including my home State of Texas, for stopping an imperial White House dead in its tracks.

For far too long, this President has forced his will on the American people with his pen and his phone. Well, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals has said enough is enough. Last week, the Court of Appeals upheld an injunction to stop the President's unilateral actions that would have granted 5 million illegal aliens work permits and eroded the foundation of our system of government.

Mr. Speaker, I am not anti-immigration. The Constitution of the United States is clear: immigration and naturalization are issues for Congress and the American people to decide, not a self-declared king sitting in the White House.

Lawlessness breeds lawlessness. Last week, Texas and the Fifth Circuit secured the rule of law, and I thank them for it.

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND T-HUD

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share that the Nation is desperate for a long-term, 21st century transportation and infrastructure system that provides sustainable solutions to our Nation's infrastructure crisis. We can't kick the can down the road anymore. Patching our roads and our budgets will not reverse the serious decline in our infrastructure.

In April of this year, I joined elected officials and community leaders in my district at the Central Ohio Transit Authority's new Spring Street Terminal to "Stand Up 4 Transportation" and call for a long-term funding bill.

Short-term patches like the one that was rushed through Congress last month fail to meet the challenge of our Nation's crumbling roads and bridges—even as other nations advance their infrastructure by leaps and bounds.

Mr. Speaker, without meaningful long-term transportation bills that provide forward thinking and predictable investments for our infrastructure, we are slamming the brakes on the economy and jobs.

It is time to act. The clock is ticking.

ROME HIGH SCHOOL ON BEST HIGH SCHOOLS LIST

(Mr. GRAVES of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rome High School, which was ranked as one of the "Best High Schools in America" by U.S. News & World Report for the fourth year in a row. It also earned a silver ranking, meaning Rome High is one of the top 10 percent of schools nationwide.

These high achievements are evidence of the commitment, the dedication, and the hard work put forth by Rome High students, their faculty, and the staff. In fact, when the Rome News Tribune asked him about the rankings, Principal Evans noted: "We are striving for a gold rank of course."

Mr. Speaker, this commitment to hard work and doing the best you can embodies the values that make north-west Georgia a great place to live, to work, and to raise a family.

Congratulations to all those involved in the Rome High School community. Enjoy your summer break. You have earned it.

BRING BACK OUR GIRLS

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Boko Haram, with the help of ISIS, has made a dangerous comeback. Just yesterday, Boko Haram attacked again, using a suicide bomber to kill 20 more people.

In his inauguration speech last Friday, President Buhari vowed to defeat Boko Haram. I hope and pray that President Buhari remains committed to this vow because we here in Congress will certainly remain committed to holding him accountable.

Mr. Speaker, we will continue to wear red in solidarity with the thousands affected by the evils of Boko Haram. We will continue to tweet, tweet, tweet #bringbackourgirls.

Listen to these headlines: "Kidnapped Nigerian Girls Likely Being Used by Boko Haram as Suicide Bombers"; "U.S. Signals Willingness to Widen the Role in Fighting Boko Haram in Nigeria"; "Boko Haram and ISIS Are the Worst Sexual Abusers"; "How Boko Haram Is Turning Children into Weapons"; "With Help from ISIS, a More Deadly Boko Haram Makes a Comeback"; "Nigerian Girls Kidnapped by Boko Haram May Be Held in Underground Bunkers"; "Boko Haram Militants Raped Hundreds of Female Captives in Nigeria."

Continue to tweet. Tweet #bringbackourgirls.

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REMEMBERING ARLENE BUSH

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember and celebrate a wonderful public servant from Bloomington, Minnesota, Arlene Bush.

Arlene Bush served on the Bloomington School Board for 33 years and volunteered for many more. But the longevity of Arlene's service is just part of the story. Arlene was known for the kindness she showed to everyone whom she interacted with.

Superintendent of Bloomington Public Schools Les Fujitake remembered how Arlene always approached decisions that the school board faced by asking, "What is best for the children?" Arlene was a fixture at school events and at the annual Congressional Art Competition in Bloomington. In fact, she often took the time to tag along with me when I visited schools.

Arlene's positive, kind, and supportive spirit was contagious to those around her. Her legacy will be remem-

bered far beyond the Bloomington School Board meeting room and the Minnesota School Boards Association award that bears her name.

My condolences go out to Arlene's family, to the Bloomington Public Schools, and to the entire Bloomington community who mourn the loss of Arlene but who celebrate a wonderful public servant.

HIRE A HERO ACT

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to support an important initiative.

We celebrate and show honor to our veterans, fallen servicemembers, and those in the Armed Forces during Memorial Day and Veterans Day, and then in some respects we go on about our business.

Those veterans and the men and women in the National Guard and Ready Reserve need our continued support. We do that through health care, educational initiatives, and other ways. We must do it as well to support them economically with jobs.

Too many American servicemembers remain unemployed. Although the overall veteran unemployment rate has dropped in recent years, the rate of unemployment among our post-9/11 veterans is 7.2 percent.

As our economy continues to improve, we must be sure that those who fight to defend this country are not left behind. The men and women who serve in the National Guard and Reserve are highly trained, well-qualified individuals who add tremendous value to our employer's workforce.

Let's make it easier for those employers—and even incentivize them—to bring the men and women who continue to serve in the National Guard and Reserve on their payroll. Through the Hire A Hero Act, H.R. 2457, employers would receive a tax incentive to hire our National Guardsmen and Reservists. This would support small businesses by providing them with highly skilled workers and assist our great men and women.

Please join me in supporting the Hire A Hero Act.

ENDING ALZHEIMER'S

(Mr. GUINTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the 5.3 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease as we observe Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

Families affected by this illness know firsthand Alzheimer's takes more than just memories; it takes the lives of loved ones.

Despite being the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, Alzheimer's is the only disease in the top